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W. Perry Dowst

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EXAMINER

PRICE, CARL D

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10603947	6/25/03	DOWST ET AL.	1323_001RCE

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Commissioner for Patents

The Examiner's Answer mailed on 06/09/2009 inadvertently excluded claim 150 from the section titled "(9) Grounds of Rejection".

See the attached revised portion of the Examiner's Answer which now incorporates claim 150 in the statement of rejection under the section titled "(9) Ground of Rejection", and in particular in the section of the rejection of the claims beginning with recitation:

"Claims 117-150 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US002154305 (of record) in view of GB000882881 (newly cited) and DE 33 39 848 (of record)."

NO DECISION BY THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES HAS BEEN RENDERED.

Three pages are attached.

/Carl D. Price/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3749

Claims Rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims **117-150** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **US002154305** (of record) in view of **GB000882881** (newly cited) and **DE 33 39 848** (of record).

US002154305 shows a portable heating system comprising:

- a vessel (13) having a thermally conductive bottom end defining an external bottom side (31, 32, 33) of the vessel;
- a top housing (16) having a top rim (53) coupled circumferentially to the external bottom side of the vessel (at 32, 53), a side structure (54) extending downwardly from the top rim (53) and having a plurality of exhaust vents (82) formed therein, and a bottom rim (48, 51);
- a bottom housing (17) having a top rim (49, 52) configured to be selectively coupled to the top housing bottom rim (48) and containing a burner (15) having a heat outlet head disposed below the external bottom side of the vessel when the bottom housing is coupled to the top housing (see figure 8), the bottom housing further having a plurality of air inlet vents (81) formed therein.

US002154305 shows and discloses the invention substantially as set forth in the claims with possible exception to:

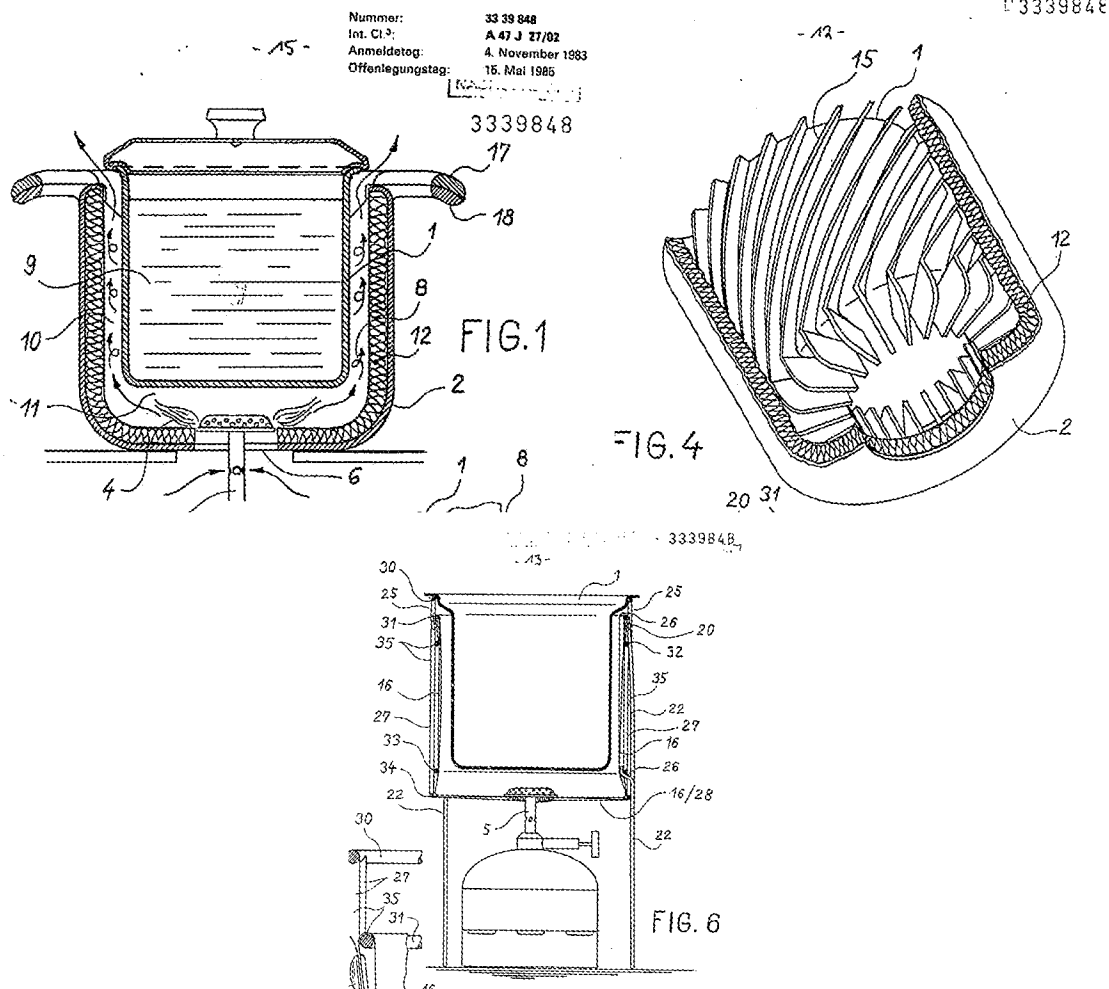
- a single thermally conductive member (15) along the entire extent of a peripheral edge of the external bottom side. The member comprising a continuous piece of aluminum material soldered to and positioned adjacent to and extending continuously over the bottom of a vessel (see page 2, lines 100-105).

GB000882881 teaches, from applicant's same portable heater field of endeavor, placing a single thermally conductive member (15) along the entire extent of a peripheral edge of the external bottom side. The member comprising a continuous piece of aluminum material soldered to and positioned adjacent to and extending continuously over the bottom of a vessel (see page 2, lines 100-105).

DE 33 39 848 teaches (figures 1 and 2), from applicant's same portable heater field of endeavor dimension the outer burner diameter to be less than the diameter of the inner central

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cavity formed by the thermally conductive members, for the purpose of effectively directing heat from the burner flames into and along the heat transfer passages.



In regard to claims **117-150**, for the purpose of making the base readily separable from the base and the base is storable within the vessel and to increase the thermal heat efficiency by confining the flow to heat about the vessel bottom, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify **US002154305** to include a single thermally conductive member (15) along the entire extent of a peripheral edge of the external bottom side in the manner set forth in applicant's claims, in view of the teaching of **GB000882881**. Furthermore, in regard to claims **117-150**, for the purpose of effectively directing heat from the burner flames into and along the heat transfer passages, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to dimension the outer burner diameter to be less than the diameter of the inner

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central cavity formed by the thermally conductive members, in view of the teaching of **DE 33 39 848**.

In regard to claims **122-128, 134-139** and **145-150**, since shape of the protrusions the manner of coupling (e.g. – soldering, brazing, gluing, etc.), the height of the vessel, length of the protrusions, aspect ratio of the protrusions, etc. would depend on numerous design concerns such as the overall size and shape of both the burner and vessel, the type of substance being heat, the amount of heat intended to be transferred to the substance through the vessel wall, etc., to configure the protrusions to have dimensions and to be attached in the manner set forth in the claims, can be viewed as nothing more than merely a matter of choice in design absent the showing of any new or unexpected results produced there from over the prior art of record. Further in this regard it is noted that **GB000882881** teaches that elements, such as apertures 20, are of such a size “that the maximum amount of heat is absorbed by the strip 15 which is secured in intimate heat-conducting relationship with the base of the kettle” (beginning page 2, line15).